

OCT 12 2006

Application Serial No. 10/524,498
Reply to Office Action of July 17, 2006

PATENT
Docket: CU-4061

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The listing of claims presented below replaces all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (currently amended) A U-shaped pacifier strap clip with two clamping parts pivotable relative to each other and having co-operating clamping regions, opposing inner side surfaces which are formed by the legs of a U-section having co-operating clamping regions, wherein opposing inner-side surfaces of the clamping regions rest against each other in a closed clamping position of the pacifier strap clip, and the surface of at least one clamping region at least partially consisting of a material having a lower hardness than the material of the clamping parts, wherein the pacifier strap clip is a two-component injection molded member, and the clamping parts are formed by the legs of a U-section, and the apex of which the U-section is provided as a pivot axis, or pivoting region, respectively, for the clamping parts, the clamping regions of the pacifier strap clip being spaced apart in their relaxed open position, wherein the U-section comprises a fastening bracket for connecting a pacifier strap to the clip, and the U-shaped pacifier strap clip is a two-component injection molded member with a surface of at least one clamping region at least partially being made of a material having a lower hardness than the material of the clamping parts.
2. (previously presented) A clip according to claim 1, wherein one clamping region at least partially comprises a surface of the material of lower hardness.
3. (previously presented) A clip according to claim 1, wherein at least one clamping region at least partially is formed by a coating of the material of lower hardness.
4. (previously presented) A clip according to claim 3, wherein the inner surface of a clamping part in the clamping region is entirely coated with the material of lower hardness.

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5. (previously presented) A clip according to claim 4, wherein a narrow-side rim of the clamping part in the clamping region is at least partially coated with the material of lower hardness.

6. (previously presented) A clip according to claim 1, wherein on each one of the inner surfaces of the clamping region, a tooth profile is provided, the tooth profiles meshing in the clamping position, and at least one tooth profile being made of the material of lower hardness.

7. (previously presented) A clamp according to 1, wherein for the transition into the clamping position, a bracket embracing the two clamping parts and shiftably mounted on the latter is provided.

8. (previously presented) A clip according to claim 7, wherein at least one clamping part externally includes at least one wedge-shaped web that widens towards the free end of the clamping part, which web is made of the same material as the U-section.

9. (previously presented) A clip according to claim 8, wherein two wedge-shaped webs arranged at the rim side are provided on one clamping part.

10. (previously presented) A clip according to claim 8, wherein said at least one wedge-shaped web has a profiled surface.

11. (previously presented) A clip according to claim 1, wherein the clamping regions are oval.

12. (previously presented) A clip according to claim 1, wherein the clamping parts are made of a hard synthetic material.

13. (previously presented) A clip according to claim 1, wherein a thermoplastic elastomer (TPE) is provided as the material of lower hardness.

14. (previously presented) A clip according to claim 1, wherein the clip is a two-component injection-molded piece.

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15. (previously presented) A clip according to claim 12, wherein the hard synthetic material is polycarbonate.